GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3578
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015
Pollution by Cement Industries
Fatepara Shri Devajibhai Govindbhai

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that cement industries are major source of pollution in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the steps taken to check the said pollution along with the outcome thereof, State-wise, including Gujarat;
(c) whether any new benchmark has been formulated by the Government to curb pollution by cement industries; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.The cement industries have been categorized as highly polluting industries by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The main pollutants emitted from cement industries include Particulate Matter, SulphurDioxide (SO2)and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2).

(b)To prevent and control pollution from cement industries,CPCB conducts surprise inspection of cement industries under itsEnvironmental Surveillance Squad programme to assess the compliance status with respect to the prescribed emission/effluent norms. Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986 are issued to the non-compliant industries and under section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to direct industries to comply with the stipulated norms. Further, the cement industries have also been directed to install on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices for better monitoring of complianceby CPCB and SPCBs. The State-wise list of non-compliant industries including those in Gujarat is given at Annexure-I.

(c)&(d) In August, 2014 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified revised emission norms for Particulate Matter and also introduced emission norms for SO2 and NO2 for cement industry as per Annexure-II.